Joseph Matarese 1615 Broadway #10 Oakland CA 94612

Aug 28th 2018

Via ECFS Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC,

I am greatly concerned about the lack of broadband competition. I pay for broadband services at both my in-laws home in another city as well as my own home.

Where I reside I am able to access broadband via Sonic.net, who offer a competitively priced service over AT&Ts network. Not only are equivalent services from AT&T and Comcast more costly, but these companies do not agree to protect my data privacy in the manner that Sonic.net does.

Where my in-laws reside, competition is relatively lacking because CenturyLinks network is relatively poor in the market. As such I pay Comcast 50% more for lower quality service than I have at home.

I strongly feel that capitalism only functions well where there is true competition. With all of the media technology consolidation in the US, including AT&T-DirecTV-TimeWarner and Comcast-NBCUniversal, there is no longer sufficient competition for capitalism to flourish. We are all at the mercy of monopolies who effectively point to each other and say, If you allowed them to merge, you need to allow me to merge so that I can compete. The FCC must put a stop to this anti-competitive behavior and consequential stifling of free-market principles. Free doesnt mean allowing media conglomerates to do whatever they want, including stifling competition. Free means enforcing fair competition so that consumers have real choices.

Joseph Matarese